

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Deblin/Irena Airfield

DATE DISTR.

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DATE OF
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REFERENCES

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Attached is

Sketch of the Deblin-Irena Airfield.

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USAF review completed.

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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DATE DISTR. 19 Nov. 1956

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Deblin/Irena AirfieldGeneral Information

1. Deblin/Irena Airfield (N 51-33, E 21-53) is located about two kilometers east of Deblin and southeast of Irena (N 51-35, E 21-52). In addition to being the largest Polish training command base, it was the headquarters for the Jan Krasicki Air Force Officers School. The training curriculum at this base included courses for pilots, navigators, bombardiers, gunners, radio operators, aircraft mechanics, and weather observers.

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Runways and Surface

2. Deblin/Irena Airfield had a single runway 2800 meters long, 100 meters wide, and about 18cm thick. It was constructed of concrete blocks, size of which was unknown. Drainage ducts were located on each side of the runway, distance between ducts was unknown. The runway did not have permanent lighting installed but utilized smudge pots which were placed in position during night operations only. The approaches to this runway, which was orientated on a magnetic heading of 130-310 degrees, were excellent. Extensibility of runway was possible to the northwest, about 1000 meters, and to the southeast, about 800 meters. This runway was considered a first category runway. (The length of a first category runway was between 2500 and 2800 meters; second category runway between 1800 and 2500 meters; and a third category runway between 1200 and 1800 meters.)

Aircraft Dispersal Points

3. except for aircraft undergoing routine maintenance, all aircraft were parked in the open as indicated on Figure 2, Points 3, 22, and 29.

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Security

4. All guard duty was performed by regular military guards; however, students were utilized to supplement the regular guard detail during holidays. The daily guard shift was changed at 1500 hours during the fall and winter months and at 1700 hours during the spring and summer months. Guards were usually on duty two hours and off four. the following guard posts as shown on Figure 2:

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- (1) Points 68, 69, and 70 - under surveillance 24 hours a day; one, possibly two guards.

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- (2) Point 28 - under surveillance 24 hours a day; one guard.
- (3) Point 5 - under surveillance only when not in use; one guard who also patrolled area in Point 6.
- (4) Point 3 - under surveillance after normal duty hours (0800-1630) and on weekends. One guard patrolled aircraft parking area.
- (5) Point 22 - under surveillance after normal duty hours (0800-1630) and on weekends. One guard patrolled aircraft parking area.
- (6) Points 67, 50, and 19 - under surveillance 24 hours a day; one guard.

[redacted] a secret military unit, was located in the headquarters building (Point 16, Figure 2), and commonly referred to as an information unit (Informacja). The personnel assigned to this unit were believed to be very reliable Polish officers who were graduates of a Political Training School. The unit and the individuals assigned to it were referred to as "Informacja". It was believed that each battalion was assigned at least one such individual (Informacja) whose identity was generally known to the students.

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[redacted] these informants were responsible to the unit located in the headquarters building (Point 16, Enclosure 1).

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Identification Data

Figure 1, on page 11, is [redacted] Kozienice, Poland. Following is the legend to this overlay. Numbers in parentheses below refer to the numbers on the overlay.

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- (1) Deblin - small village (N 51-34, E 21-50).
- (2) Bridge - dimensions and construction details unknown.
- (3) Railroad - double track, standard gauge.
- (4) Irena - small village (N 51-35, E 21-52).
- (5) Road - about 14 meters wide, asphalt, except for a short stretch near the airfield which was gravel.
- (6) Airfield area - see Enclosure I for details.
- (7) Wieprz River - located about $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 kilometers south of the airfield, irregular width from 10 to 40 kilometers, flowed east into the Wisla River.

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- (8) Bobrowniki - small village (N 51-34, E 21-56), about 2 to 2½ kilometers southeast of airfield. Because of incidents between military and civilian personnel, this village was placed off-limits to all military personnel.

- (9) Wisla River [redacted] flowed to the north.

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Site-Layout

7. Enclosure 1 is a [redacted] sketch of Doblin/Irena Airfield. Numbers in parentheses below refer to the numbers on the sketch.

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- (1) Runway - a single runway 2800 meters long, 100 meters wide, and about 18cm thick. Refer to paragraph 2, this report, Runways and Surface, for more information.
- (2) Taxi-strip - concrete construction, about 15 meters wide, extended from runway to the northwest perimeter of airfield. This taxi-strip was not equipped with night lighting or artificial drainage. During night operations, trucks were used to tow aircraft from the end of the runway to the parking area.
- (3) Aircraft parking area - sod area which accommodated about 11 IL-28 aircraft. Five of these aircraft were modified and used as trainers, the remainder were bomber aircraft.
- (4) Building - brick construction, 60x30x12 meters, single story, gable roof. This building housed about 10 horses and grass mowing equipment. The horses were used to pull the grass mowing equipment.
- (5) Firing Range - circular grass area, size unknown, enclosed with a barbed-wire fence. This area and Point 6 were guarded day and night by sentinels who were accompanied by dogs. The area contained two firing ranges, both of which were orientated on a north-south heading. One of the ranges was 100 meters long and used for machine-gun firing by gunnery and pilot students. This range had three positions. Adjacent to the 100-meter range, but on a higher level, was a 150 meter range which was used for pistol and rifle fire. Both ranges used 7.62 and 12.7mm ammunition.
- (6) Ammunition storage - this was an underground storage point for 7.62, 12.7 and 23 mm ammunition. No further information.
- (7) Fence - wire mesh, topped with two strands of barbed wire, about 3½ meters high.
- (8) Officer family quarters - brick construction, 100x30x18 meters, four stories, gable roof. [redacted] approximately 10 or 12 families occupied these quarters.

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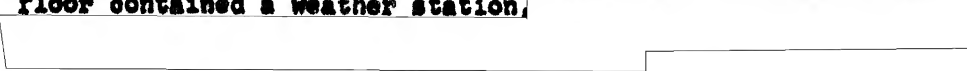


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- (9) Officer family quarters - similar dimensions and construction as Point 8.
- (10) Officer family quarters - similar dimensions and construction as Point 8.
- (11) Officer family quarters - similar dimensions and construction as Point 8.
- (12) Officer family quarters - similar dimensions and construction as Point 8.
- (13) Hangar - reinforced concrete, 100x30x12 meters, low-pitched shed-type roof. Three doors, each measuring about 16 meters across and mounted on rollers, were located on the north side of the hangar. YAK-23 and IL-10 type aircraft were seen in this hangar 
- (14) Building - brick construction, pyramid shaped, first floor measured approximately 110x50x10 meters, second floor was smaller, dimensions unknown. Aircraft control tower was located on top of the second floor. First floor contained a parachute repack room, storage area and parachute drying room. Airfield duty officer was also located on this floor. Second floor contained a weather station, 
- (15) Mail drop - small, circular brick shed used as mail drop.
- (16) Headquarters building - brick construction, 140x80x18 meters, three stories, flat roof. School commander and staff were located in this building.
- (17) Guardhouse No. 2 - brick construction, 50x30x10 meters, single story, gable roof. Personnel assigned guard duty used this building between duty tours. It also had cell facilities which were used only when conditions became crowded in guardhouse number 4 (Point 66).
- (18) Small pond - about 120x80 meters, depth unknown.
- (19) Gate guard post - wooden construction, 2x2 meters, field phone  connected with guardhouse at Point 17.
- (20) Officers dining hall - brick construction, 150x70x15 meters, single story, flat roof. Used by all officers of the base.
- (21) Hangar - similar dimensions and construction as point 13.  YAK-11 and IL-10 aircraft parked in this hangar.
- (22) Aircraft parking area - sod area, adjacent to taxi-strip, accommodated about 25 PE-2 and UTB aircraft.

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- (23) Road - concrete construction, about 10 meters wide, in good condition.
- (24) Bachelor officers quarters - brick construction, 60x30x18 meters, three stories, flat roof. Number of officers quartered was unknown.
- (25) Bachelor officers quarters - similar dimensions and construction as Point 24.
- (26) Wooded Area - trees were about 20 to 25 meters high.
- (27) School commandants quarters - brick construction, dimensions unknown, two stories, gable roof.
- (28) POL storage area - rectangular area, enclosed with barbed wire, consisting of seven 2½ meter high tanks. Diameter of tanks unknown. This area was under the surveillance of one guard 24 hours a day. Small trees and shrubbery, about two to three meters high, grew along the barbed wire fence and made it difficult to observe this area.
- (29) Aircraft parking area - sod, rectangular shaped. Three LI-2 aircraft were parked here.
- (30) Officers family quarters - brick construction, two stories, gable roof, occupied by two families. Names unknown.
- (31) Officers family quarters - similar dimensions and construction as Point 30.
- (32) Swimming pool - concrete construction, 25x8 meters, about 3½ meters deep.
- (33) Mobile radio - truck mounted radio of Russian manufacture,
- (34) Stadium - 150x80 meters, sod area, seating facilities on the east side only. Used for physical training, soccer, etc.
- (35) Hangar - similar dimensions and construction as Point 13. YAK-23 and IL-10 aircraft were in this hangar . No further information.
- (36) Building - wooden construction, 60x30x10 meters, gable roof. This building was used as a pilots lounge and briefing room. It could accommodate about 40 persons.
- (37) Battery shop - concrete construction, 50x15x10 meters, flat tarpaper roof.
- (38) Road - concrete, about 13 meters wide, good condition.

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- (39) Building - brick construction, 70x30x10 meters, flat tarpaper roof. This building contained bathing facilities for airmen and officers. The officers used the west side of the building and the airmen used the east side.
- (40) School building - brick and concrete construction, 150x120x18 meters, four stories, except the south wing which was two stories high. This school was originally constructed by the Germans. It was seriously damaged during World War II, rebuilt in 1953 by the Polish Air Force, and is presently used by the Polish Air Force.
- (41) Barracks - wing "A" was constructed of brick, 120x40x18 meters, three stories, flat tarpaper roof. Officers occupied the first floor, non-commissioned officers occupied the second and third floor. Wing "B" was constructed of brick, 60x40x10 meters, two stories, flat tarpaper roof. This wing housed the cadet mess hall. Wing "C" was constructed of brick, two stories, flat tarpaper roof. This wing was occupied by gunnery, radio, and weather students.
- (42) Central Heating Plant - brick construction, 70x50x11 meters, flat tarpaper roof. This plant contained six coal and coke burning furnaces, however, only three were usually in operation.
- (43) Fire station - brick construction, 50x30x10 meters, single story, flat tarpaper roof. Northwest corner of this building contained a look-out tower which was about 20 meters above the ground. Three Star-20 fire trucks were normally located here.
- (44) Rail spur - single standard gauge railroad, extending from the POL area to the railroad yards in Deblin.
- (45) Water tank - concrete construction, about 25 meters high, round tank topped with a gable roof. The roof was painted red; tank and tank supports were painted yellow.
- (46) Officers club and theater - brick construction, 120x60x12 meters, single story, flat tarpaper roof. Theater seating capacity was about 800.
- (47) Parachute training area - sod, 80x40 meters, enclosed with a barbed wire fence. A steel parachute training tower, about 30 meters high, was located in the center of this area.
- (48) Guardhouse number one - brick construction, 10x15x6 meters, flat tarpaper roof.
- (49) Stream (Irenka) - very small stream which flowed to the south and was generally orientated in a north-south direction.
- (50) Gate guard post - wooden construction, 2x2 meters; normally one guard was posted at this gate.

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- (51) Bridge - concrete construction, about eight meters wide, supported vehicle and train traffic.
- (52) Motor pool - rectangular area, about 50x30 meters, enclosed with a barbed wire fence which was about two meters high. A wooden shed, 40x7x8 meters, located on the east side, had space for about 12 vehicles. The total number of vehicles in this area was about 22, most of which were trucks.
- (53) Motor pool - square area, about 60x60 meters, enclosed with a barbed wire fence which was about two meters high. A wooden shed, 15x5x6 meters, was located on the south side. This area contained tractors and snow-removal equipment.
- (54) Dispensary - brick construction, 30x20x13 meters, two stories, gable roof. First floor was occupied by ENT clinic, dental clinic, and an aid station. Two doctors and one aid man were assigned to these offices. The second floor contained a 25-bed hospital.
- (55) Building - brick construction, 20x15x12 meters, gable roof. Military court (Prokuratura) was located in this building.
- (56) Officer family quarters - brick construction, 15x12x11 meters, two stories, gable roof. These quarters were normally occupied by two families.
- (57) Officer family quarters - same dimensions and construction as Point 56.
- (58) Road - made of concrete, 15 meters wide, used by vehicles and towed aircraft. The aircraft were towed from the flight line to Points 68, 69, and 70.
- (59) Road - gravel, about eight meters wide, drainage ditch on each side of road.
- (60) Building - brick construction, 70x30x11 meters, two stories, steep gable roof.
- (61) Officer family quarters - brick construction, 60x20x14 meters, three stories, gable roof. No further information.
- (62) Officer family quarters - similar dimensions and construction as Point 61.
- (63) Rail spur - single-track standard gauge line extending from Point 42 (central heating plant) to the railroad yards in Deblin.
- (64) Building - brick construction, 15x6x7 meters, single story, gable roof. This was a reception room for guests of military personnel stationed at Deblin/Irena.

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- (65) Road - about 14 meters wide, asphalt, except for a short stretch near the airfield which was gravel.
- (66) Guardhouse number four - brick construction, 11x11x7 meters, single story, gable roof.
- (67) Gate Guard Post No. 4 - this post was normally manned by one guard.
- (68) Hangar - reinforced concrete, 60x40x15 meters, monitor roof; raised central portion was lined with wire reinforced glass. Two doors, each about 12 meters wide, were located on the south side of the hangar. Because of their size, these doors were mounted on rollers, however, they were manually operated. The north side of this hangar contained about three engine test blocks, jet and reciprocating.
 at least three exhaust ports on the north side of the hangar.
- (69) Hangar - similar construction and dimensions as Point 68 except that the hangar doors were on the east side. This hangar contained facilities for reciprocating engine build-up.
- (70) Hangar - similar construction and dimensions as Point 68 except that the hangar doors were located on the west side. No further information.
- (71) Fence - wire mesh, topped with two strands of barbed wire, about 2½ meters high.
- (72) Rail spur - single track standard-gauge rail line extending from point 73 to the rail yard in Deblin.
- (73) Building - concrete construction, 150x30x18 meters, four stories, flat tarpaper roof. This building was the main supply warehouse at Deblin/Irena. The first floor stocked aircraft engines and aircraft components; second floor stocked clothing for officers and airmen; third floor stocked small ordnance items such as 7.62 ammunition, hand grenades, etc; fourth floor stocked flying personal equipment and supplies for maintenance personnel.
- (74) Bakery - brick construction, 60x40x7 meters, low-pitched shed roof. About 14 civilian personnel and one military were employed here.
- (75) Mess Hall - brick construction, 50x20x11 meters, gable roof. This mess hall was used by mechanics only and had a seating capacity of about 80. Construction on this building was completed in 1955.

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- (76) Barracks - brick construction, 80x30x18 meters, four stories, flat tarpaper roof. About 220 mechanic trainees and about 120 NCO trainees were quartered in this building.
- (77) Warehouse - brick construction, 70x40x18 meters, three stories. Several different types of flour were stored in this warehouse. This warehouse supplied flour to the bakery at point 74.
- (78) Footbridge - wooden construction, used by personnel only.

Enclosure: Layout Sketch of Deblin/Irena Airfield

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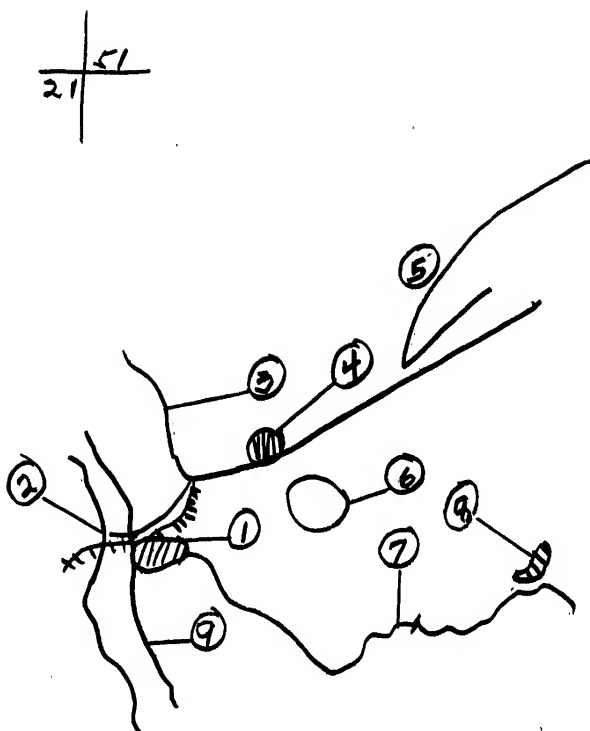
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Figure 1 - Overlay on  Kozienice, Poland

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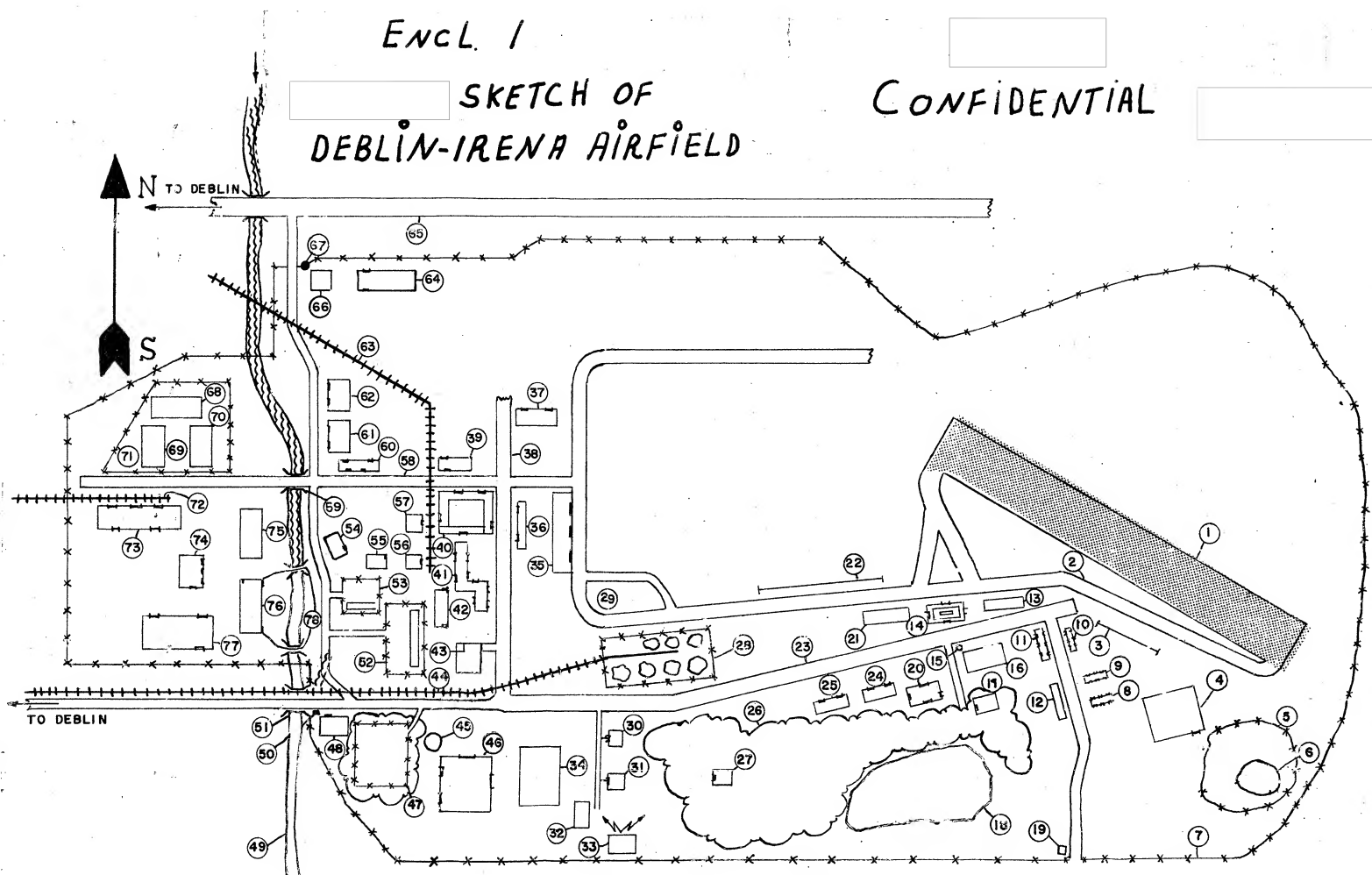
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